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Absent-Minded Professor - How do you do, Miss Schimmelpfenig? Miss S.-I am very well, thank you. "But why are you in mourning?"

"Don't you know, professor, that my father died last week?"

"You don't tell me so! When you go home tell your father that I am very sorry to hear of his affliction."

To Fit as Occasion Requires Mrs. Whalen-Hov yez enny short

pants fer byes? Mr. Silverstein-I hafe not. I hafe long bants for mens. Buy a bair for your husban', vash 'em vonce; und dey vill fit der chile. I hafe sold bants dot hafe vent drue a whole cheneration like dot. De longer you vash em de smaller dey gits .- Judge

Misleading Directions.

Col. Blugrass-How shall I reach the river, sah?
Yank-Jest follow your nose straight

ahead.

Col. Blugrass—Sah! Does my nose look like a nose, sah, that would lead me to watah sah?—Puck.

A Post-Graduate.

He—What a modest, lovely creature she must be! See how she blushes on the slightest provocation. How fasci-

She-And yet some parents don't be lieve in our young women's institute of physical culture.—Judge.

Intelligent Alms-Giving.

Mendicant—Dear lady, I am paralyzed on one side and starving. I know by your sweet face you will help a poor old Bible-reader. Won't you?

Lady (handing him money)-Here, my poor friend, go and get your beer. .

TIMES KODAK.

Items of News Gathered About Town.

The members of the executive committee of the Baptist Orphanage, who were to have met and reported to-day certain rules regarding the admission of orphans, have postponed their meeting until the 16th instant on account of the bad weather.

Major R. D. Martin continues criti-cally ill at his residence on Broad street. Commonwealth's Attorney Ballard and wife have returned from a visit to Norfolk.

Among those registered at Hotel Lucerne yesterday were George L. At-kins, of New York, a for.ner citizen of Salem, and K. D. Urquhart, of Lynch-

Ott Crawford is at present located in Norfolk, where he is said to be in the employ of a building association.

There was a good deal of sleighing yesterday and two slight accidents. Lieutenant Shanks, United States army, was driving with a young lady in West Salem about noon, when one of the runners broke, upsetting the sleigh. Frank Nininger was returning with a young ners broke, upsetting the sleigh. Frank Nininger was returning with a young lady and just as the ride was finished ran the sleigh on a snow bank and over they went. Luckily no one was hurt in either case.

Sunday night some sacrilegious scamp stole five hens from Dr. Wiley's fowl house, and a choice game cock belonging to his son, Minor.

J. P. Coon, a popular and pleasant young man who for some time past has been in the employ of O. D. Oakey, left yesterday for Roanoke, where he has obtained a situation with W. G. and A. J. Evans.

Every time the Norfolk and Western engine 246 goes by, it is the object of admiration and interest, for it is case of the five just fitted with a new carper stack, which is working to perfection.

A. G. Pendleton and family have returned to their former home in Everett Strouse has taken the posi-

tion of private secretary to the Bon-sack and Comas Cigarette Machine Companies, and the Carper Engine Company S. T. Battle, of the Shubert quar-

tette, was in town yesterday arranging with the Y. M. C. A. folks for another concert. Their entertainment Saturday night was crowded, and those who at-tended were enthusiastic in their praise of the concert.

of the concert.

The five commissioners appointed by the county court inspected the Martin mill property Monday morning and listened to the arguments of Messrs. Chandler and Saabye, civil engineers, and whilst they have not quite concluded their investigation. The Times reporter has been reliably informed that so far they are unanimous in their opinion to recommend that the petition of Mrs. D. R. Beale to erect a dam be granted.

H. J. Stevens, superintendent of street

H.J. Stevens, superintendent of street work, left Monday evening for the South to visit friends in Atlanta, Ga., and Mobile and Montgomery, Ala.

Joe Pleasants, colored, hailing from Joe Pleasants, colored, nathing from Richmond, but who worked last year in Salem, attempted to get on a freight train Monday morning between Deyerle and Singer. He stipped and the wheels crushed his right leg terribly. He was brought to Salem on the afternoon passanger train, and taken to the town senger train, and taken to the town poor house temporarily, Mayor Younger contending that he was a charge on the county. Dr. Armstrong, physician for the town, rendered him necessary surgical attention.

Secretary Tracy's Plan.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29 .- [Special]-A measure embodying the views of the Secretary of the Navy, as expressed in his last annual report upon the subject of the reorganization of the personnel of the navy, has been prepared by sev-eral of his assistants and submitted to the two naval committees for their con-

sideration.

The main features of the bill contemplate a reorganization of the plan proposed by the Philadelphia board; promotions by selection to flag rank, as in the army; promotion by limited selection to command rank; other promotions by seniority, as at present; the constitution of a reserve list for shore duty only, and no immediate appoint. duty only, and no immediate appointments to fill vacancies left at the foot of the active list, which will be filled gradually from the Naval Academy.

HOW IT STARTED.

Mrr. Wm. V. Henderson, of New York, felt chilly, sneezed once or twice, and said, "I think must have taken cold."

That was on Thursday. On Saturday she died! Doctors said it was the grip, but, "It started with a cold."

Doctors said it was the grip, but, "It started with a cold."

Mr. James G. Wheatly, of Chicago, went down to the Board of Trade on Monday morning buoyant with it e and hope. He became heated, went out without his overcoat to get a hasty linch, and the cold wind chilled him.

He died on Wednesday, a victim of pneumonia, which "started from a coid."

Hundreds of men and women are dying every day from grip, from pneumonia, from various troubles, all of which "started with a cold."

What is the lesson:

Stop the first symptoms. "A stitch in time saves nine." Do not delay. Use the best thing you can get, and do it at once.

But what shall do?

Follow the experience of others. Mrs Andrew D. Whitman, of Brooklyu, says:

"If tit the grip coming on. I know this from what I had heard others say. I was chily, my head ache", my bones and museles seemed in pain, I felt feverish, I was miserable I did not delay, but began treating the trouble at once. The next day I was better, the third day well, and ettirely through the use or Dr. Acker's English remedy for conghs, coids and consumption It is grand."

Mr. Wfmot F. Glover, of Buffalo, says:

"I have no fear of the grip, none whatever. I have been attacked by it four different times and in each case have driven it off inside of twenty-four hours. How: By Dr. Acker's English remedy I tell you this remedy will not only do what is claimed for it, viz., cure a cold in a day, check a cough in a night, but it will keep off the grip every time."

Be tho of these cases of grip "started with a cold." Be advised, and during this season er the year check the first symptoms by the heast thing you can get, and thus avoid those terrible trouble's which yet may have only "started with a cold."

THE Weber piano is a strictly first-class instrument. Its reputation is es-tablished. The Smith Music Co. sell it.

CABINETS \$2.50 per dozen for a short

CORNERED THE COPPERS.

The Ingenious Scheme of a Detroit Baker.

His Pennies Being Refused by a Bank Re Collects Earrels of Them and Creates a Shortage in the Market.

Detroit banks dislike to take pennies, nickels and other small change as much as the western cowboy, who invented the term, hates to see such currency in a game of poker. As a rule there is a strong kick when any large amount of strong kick when any large amount or pennies is turned in at once, and some time ago the local banks adopted a rule not to take pennies in bulk from mer-cantile establishments. This aroused the indignation of storekeepers who re-ceived large quantities of coppers from their customers, as under the new deal they were obliged to ship their surplus to eastern cities or send it to the treas-ury department or to sub-treasuries at considerable trouble and expense.

Barrie & Saladin, who run the largest bakery in the city, and naturally take in an almost endless number of cents, were the most seriously affected of any firm, and they determined on revenge. Just how to accomplish this was a mystery. If the rule had applied to only one bank it would have been easy toget even by transferring business to another bank, but as all the banks had united on the issue this remedy was out of the question. To suspend all banking relations could not be thought of. Mr. Barrie went home one evening trying to devise some plan to get even. As he sat reading the paper after sup-per one of his children asked for a

penny to put in a missionary box.

Suddenly an idea occurred to him. Why not work on the missionary idea and get a corner on the penny market? With the large amount of coppers coming to his store it would be easy to accumulate enough shiners to cause a serious shortage on cents. The more he thought of it the more Mr. Barrie was pleased with the idea. On the following morning he consulted his partner, and the two decided to carry the plan into execution.

strong hogshead was secured, care fully sealed up and placed in the cel-lar. A slot was cut in the lid and a tin tube placed to run from the slot to the cash drawer upstairs. Early in November the first penny was dropped into the huge barrel, and after that every copper that came in, instead of being placed with cash to be turned into the bank, was dropped into the slot. The barrel began to fill and the receiving teller at the Citizens' savings bank was puzzled at receiving no more offers of heavy deposits of cents. Mr. Barrie explained at the bank that he had found a new way of getting rid of his

pennies But slot machines, Sunday school contributions at Christmas and a heavy call by merchants for small change during the holidays exhausted the visible supply of the useful coppers, and the banks, instead of refusing to take large quantities of pennies, were at their wits' customers. Merchants who sent to banks for five dollars, ten dollars or fifteen dollars worth of cents were disappointed. The banks telegraphed to eastern cities, but were unable to get a supply on short notice. Then the following appeared in a Detroit paper: "There is a great scarcity of pennies in Detroit.

Mr. Barrie was happy. He dropped into his bank and casually asked the cashier about the penny crop. He then pleasantly reminded the cashier that the bank had once sneered at coppers. On the two days following he made similar remarks at the bank and on the fourth visit he casually said:

"By the way, I guess we've got quite by the way, I guess we got duite a batch of pennics up at the shop. If you'll send a man up I can give you some. But I want a premium of one and one half per cent."

The bank readily agreed, and a mes-senger was sent up. When he arrived he was told there were more pennics than he could carry. If the bank wanted them all they must send up an express wagon. The telephone was resorted to. The bank was delighted. Oh, certainly, it would take all it could

Half an hour later an expressman The contents of the hogshead had been emptied into three barrels, which were placed on the wagon and taken to the bank. The cashier was fairly struck dumb; he had calculated on half a bushel of pennies at the outside-here were barrels of them. He telephoned to Mr. Barrie. He didn't want the whole mint.
"Can't help that," said Mr. Barrie.

"You said you'd take all you could get at one and one half per cent. premium.'

So the barrels were rolled into the bank and placed in a back room, which was cleared of all furniture. The thousands upon thousands of coppers were dumped on the tiled floor. Counting them was out of the question, and weighing was resorted to. The aver-age number of pennies in a pound was ascertained, and then the entire collection was weighed off. It was roughly estimated that there were one hundred and two thousand five hundred pennies in the lot. Barrie & Saladin received a check for fifteen dollars and seventy-five cents as premium. Then every bank in town was notified that it could have all the pennies it wanted by send-ing over. They all "bit" and the bank managed to unload about two-thirds of its stock' within a few hours. The shortage in the penny market was re-lieved, and there is now a superabundance of the copper articles.

New Kind of Porcelain.

A new kind of porcelain made from asbestos has been brought before the Academie des Sciences, Paris, by M. Garros. He grinds the asbestos to a fine powder and frees it from oxide of iron by sulphuric or hydrochloric acid, then makes it into a paste, molds it, dries it slowly and finally bakes it for seventeen or eighteen hours at a temperature of 1,200 degrees C. It is very translucent and has been used success fully as a filter and sterilizer.

WILL HANG ON TO FORMOSA. The Chinese Not Particularly Anxious to Cede It to Great Britain.

The Chinese may not be so willing to cede Formesa to Great Britain as the English accounts from Pacific waters allege, because the diplomatists of the Celestial empire will want to know of some good and sufficient reason why the sacrifice should be made. Where China is exposed to Russian aggression British ironelads cannot reach, and the few battalions that could reach the scene of action could not affect the issue. It is a strange thing that the Russians cannot covet a desert country scantily peopled by a few tribes of nomads without violating all the sanc-tities, whereas the British can bargain for a fertile island of fifteen thousand square miles with three millions of inhabitants without incurring any odium whatever. It is something like the old story of the one man that might steal a cow and the other that durst not look over a hedge. Formosa would be a valuable acquisition to the British empire in the long run, but its possession would involve one or two hateful incidents to which John Bull would have to reconcile his conscience as he best knows how. There are barbarous races in the interior of the island over whom the Chinese have never acquired control, and who would probably be ex-terminated in the process of civilizing. That preliminary being accomplished, British capital and Chinese labor would make the land as rich as the best province in China. It is thought that there is a great mineral wealth to be had there. The cession of Formosa to England would be a parallel case to that of Cyprus, and the value of the consideration involved would be just as difficult to estimate. The Turkish empire, however, hangs more loosely together than the Chinese. Its statesmen are more accustomed to sacrifices of territory. The Chinese have not been reconciled to the loss of their nominal sovereignty in Annam from which they derived no benefit. From Formosa their revenue is considerable, and the riddle they have to solve is, what material advantage is to be gained by ceding it to the British? The Turks might have lost Cyprus to the Russians or the Greeks if Great Britain had not interfered, but the Chinese can retain Formosa probably as long as they can hold Peking. It is not menaced by Russia, and to throw it away in ex-change for the doubtful benefit of an English alliance would be an act of headlong generosity, such as need not be expected.

A BIG STUMP.

A Typical California Giant Tree-Three Growths from the Stump.

Long before the advent of the white man in California forest fires raged, and from recent discoveries it is probable that giant trees were thus destroyed in comparison to which our much lauded sequoias and redwoeds of much lanced sequents and retwoods of the present are but saplings. In 1846 Commodore Apetsby Catesby Jones, United States navy, established a small sawmill in Mill valley for the purpose of getting out lumber, there being no sawmills in operation on the coast at the time, relates the California Fruit Grower. A few remnants of this old mill still remain, the locality being min still remain, the locality being about six miles from Sausalito, on the North Pacific Coast railway. Close by this mill there can to-day be plainly traced the outlines of a tree destroyed by fire, perhaps ages ago. The stump still measures fifty-two feet in diameter, and from appearances perhaps once measured fully sixty feet.

Around this mammoth stump had grown immense trees which were cut

grown immense trees, which were cut and used in the sawmill in 1849. Since then a third growth has been made, the sight of which would make glad the heart of any lumberman. The stump was measured by Edward A. T. Gallagher, the pioneer, who lost his reputation for veracity in 1849, when his description of the sequoias of California was published in the eastern papers, in which the statement was made that his employes had driven a wagon and a yoke of oxen through a prostrate tree that was burned hollow, and they would drive one hundred feet and "gee off" and out through a knot hole. At the time the statement was made that he had felled a tree seventeen feet in diameter, and had used the heilow of one that was standing in which to stable thirteen head of horses

CANNIBAL IRON WORKER& The Fan Tribe of Africa Smelt Ore and Thus Make Money.

A gentleman, for thirty years a missionary to the Fan tribe of Africa, has presented to the university of Pennsylania one of the most important archieological collections ever made. The Fans are the powerful race of cannibals mentioned by Du Chaillu as the ruling people of the equatorial region. The collection shows a considerable degree of civilization and high mechanical skill, especially in metal work. Native iron, it seems, is plentiful, lies near the surface and is smelted by simply building a fire over the exposed ore. A very queer-looking bellows is used, and is said to be effective. The iron hammers weigh about twenty-five pounds, but the anvils, strange to say, are of stone.

The Fans are the only people in equaorial Africa who have a currency, and they are strong monometalists. The money is of iron, wrought into pieces resembling rusty hairpins with flat heads. They are put up in bundles of ten, and a hundred bundles is the market price of a wife.

A "Cruiso of Revenge."

The British warships Royalist and Ringdove have just completed a "cruise of revenge" among the Solomon islands, where several native chiefs have been executed. The chiefs in question were implicated in the murder of some British subjects, and having had this proved to their satisfaction the captains had the men shot. One native, an accessory, was publicly flogged. The men murdered by the natives were British murdered by the natives were British subjects trading in the islands. In punishing the natives for the murders their war canoes, villages and other property were destroyed by the men who landed from the war ships.

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Attempt at Burglary. A burglar attempted to effect an en

trance in the residence of A S. Asberry, in the West End, Sunday night. The family were awakened by a noise of some one at the side door, and the alarm being given the burglar took to his heels. An examination yesterday morning showed that an attempt had been made to enter over the transom, which had been knocked out. Mr. Asberry was absent at the time.

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